

# THE WHIG STANDARD.



"Flag of the free! thy folds shall fly,  
The sign of hope and triumph nigh."

FOR PRESIDENT,  
**HENRY CLAY,**  
OF KENTUCKY.

WASHINGTON.

THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 21, 1843.

## THE WHIGS RALLYING EVERY WHERE.

Scarcely a paper comes to us from any quarter that does not give evidence of the movements of the Whigs preparatory to the great contest which is to take place the approaching year. We noticed the other day the formation of Clay Clubs in every part of the Old Dominion, and the active movements of our warm-hearted friends in that State. We look to her with hope. Old Virginia, we are sure, will not forget one of her own sons—one whose fame is already the inheritance of the nation, and to whose honored name the next and succeeding generations of those who call her mother, will point as one of the brightest of those jewels which form her proud diadem; she will not discard her own legitimate heir "to the manor born," and take to her embrace another's child? Will the Eagle discard her own "bird of Jove" and adopt "a mousing owl?" Never.

In the last Columbus (Ohio) Journal, we observe a call of the State Committee for a State Convention, to be held on the 10th day of January.

"The object of this Convention is the selection of suitable candidates for Governor, and for Electors of President and Vice President—to appoint two Delegates, from the State at large, to the National Whig Convention, to be held at Baltimore, in May next, and to take the initiatory steps for a thorough and complete organization of the Democratic Whig Party, preparatory to the great political contest of 1844—such organization as will bring the People out to the polls in their full strength, for one more effort to rescue the Government of the country from those who regard the institutions and treasure of the people as spoils with which to reward political gladiators—for one more strong effort to place the control of public affairs in the hands of honest and capable men, who, faithful to the Constitution, will in their administration, direct all the energies and power of Government to promote the general prosperity and happiness of the whole People, and put an end to misrule and mal-administration—to stay that system of policy which sets up the public offices as created, for the advantage of the persons called to fill them, and not for the security and the welfare of the people.

These are comprehensive and patriotic objects, and we trust the good people of Ohio will come forth in their strength as they did in 1840, when they set such a noble example to the other States of the Union, and which many of them, Kentucky among the number, followed. Let her do now for the Statesman of the West what Kentucky then did for the Soldier of the West, and the country will be once more placed in safe and able hands. "To take the initiatory steps for a thorough and complete organization of the Democratic Whig Party, preparatory to the great contest of 1844." That is right. We hope those initiatory steps will be everywhere immediately taken. There is no time to lose. Organize—organize. Spread light among the people.

## THE WHIGS AND ANTIMASONS OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The Locofocos have calculated, not without some reason, upon the Whigs and Antimasons of Pennsylvania not being able to unite. We confess we have entertained some apprehension of division being kept up between them, by the want of a spirit of conciliation and forbearance on the part of both, as manifested in some of the heretofore strong anti-Locofoco counties. But fears have vanished; we observe a more tolerant feeling manifesting itself on both sides, and this manifestation will beget a further disposition to conciliate and harmonize with each other, until all differences shall be forgotten, and the two parties shall be seen once more laboring together in the same noble cause, and, as in the glorious campaign of 1840, the only strife between them will be, which shall serve their country, and promote that cause most zealously and effectively.

The Pittsburgh Gazette, one of the stoutest champions of Antimasonry in Pennsylvania, we rejoice to see, comes out generously and magnanimously. Speaking of Mr. Clay, the editors say:

"As long as we conceived there was a prospect of securing the nomination of a man less objectionable to ourselves, and to a large number of our fellow-citizens, than is Mr. CLAY, we deemed it our bounden duty to state our objections clearly and frankly. A vast majority of the Whig party have decided in favor of Mr. CLAY, and all hope of securing the nomination of a man whose principles are more in accordance with our own has vanished. What is our duty then in the case? To leave the anti-Locofoco party in whose ranks ourselves and this paper have labored for

many years, and unite with the Locofoco party, the principles of which are still less in accordance with ours? Would this be consistent and patriotic? Or would it display much more consistency to indirectly throw what influence this paper possesses, so as certainly to aid the Locofoco party? Neither of these courses meets with our approbation. While, therefore, we do not, and cannot, consistently with a part of our cherished principles, advocate the nomination of Mr. CLAY, yet we can, and do with pleasure, support the great measures and objects of the Whig party, with which, as far as it goes, we fully agree in sentiment. Our objections to Mr. CLAY having been all fairly stated, we do not deem it our duty to continue to urge them, unless we see some better prospect of good resulting than we can now perceive."

What more could the editors say, what more, under all the circumstances, could the Whigs desire them to say? Surely nothing. They show themselves frank, honest, tolerant, and patriotic, and for one, we cordially give them the right hand of fellowship, and with it our warmest welcome. We trust their example will have its weight upon others, and that hereafter all bickering between the two sections of the great Whig party will cease and be forgotten.

## MR. WHITTLESEY.

Elisha Whittlesey, Esq., late Auditor of the Post Office Department, was long and extensively known as a most efficient, active, and industrious Chairman of the Committee of Claims in the House of Representatives. It may not be too much to say that in the capacity of chairman to that important committee he had no superior. His labors were unremitting, both night and day, in the investigation of the many important and complicated cases presented to the consideration of Congress, and which were referred to the Committee of Claims.

General Harrison, on arriving at the seat of Government, was satisfied that the accounts of the Post Office Department were in a deplorable state of disorder and confusion, arising from the manner in which the accounts were kept, as well as from the way the money was collected and paid. For under the administration of Mr. Kendall the usual system of bookkeeping was abandoned, and the ledger, which is the key of bookkeeping, was set aside, for what purpose, or by whom, is not positively known to this day. Every person conversant with accounts and bookkeeping knows that the ledger is indispensable, and, strange to say, that essential book was dispensed with, and for several successive years, in a Department of the Government where nearly twenty thousand accounts are to be examined and balanced four times each and every year, and involving the accountability of much more than four millions of dollars each year.

Without stopping to inquire why this extraordinary—nay, inexplicable step had been taken, General Harrison promptly superseded the Auditor by the appointment of Mr. Whittlesey. This gentleman went to work with his accustomed diligence, both night and day, to unravel the mysterious web which enveloped the accounts, and soon discovered more than half a million of dollars, and was adding daily to the amount that had been shrouded in obscurity by the plan adopted by his predecessor under the administration of Mr. Kendall; a sum in amount more than sufficient to meet the then existing demands upon the Department, and to render unnecessary the half million of dollars appropriated by Congress, at the special instance of Mr. Tyler, to relieve the embarrassment of the Department soon after his induction to office. He also restored the old system of keeping accounts by the use of the ledger, a course that had been pursued by all the Postmasters General who preceded Mr. Kendall. It may with propriety be asked why Mr. Whittlesey was removed, and especially so while he was daily making some highly important discoveries of some of the countless errors committed by the mysterious plan of keeping accounts so at variance with all experience and propriety.

It may be said that he was not dismissed. That is true; but a much more objectionable course than dismissal was pursued to crowd him out of office. A dismissal would have been at least frank, if unjust, but far less objectionable than the course adopted by the President through his Secretary of the Treasury.

## REBELLION—TRAITORS IN THE CAMP.

We were utterly astounded on looking over the Charleston Courier of the 4th inst., to perceive the announcement of a meeting of the CLAY CLUB of Charleston, S. C. What! is rebellion rearing its front in Mr. Calhoun's own Palmetto State? Are there Whigs enough in Charleston to form a Clay Club? We were not aware of the fact till now, and most heartily do we rejoice at it.—New Orleans Bee.

What! a Clay Club in Charleston, S. C.! Has rebellion truly "reared its front in the Palmetto State?" What may we not expect after this announcement? "What will Uncle Gabriel [of the Enquirer] say?" "Skies bright!" Honor to the Whigs of Charleston. Though few in numbers, yet undismayed; a glorious example, and worthy of imitation in similarly benighted regions.

Send your "Standard" this way! How do you expect us to rally, unless we have a standard around which to do it?—Bedford (Pa.) Inquirer.

Boy! let our "Standard" be sent to Brother Chapman; tell him to plant it on the peak of the Alleghanies, and call upon the Whigs of Bedford to rally around and support it! But don't crow, Brother Chapman—don't crow. It shocks our nerves!

## THE TARIFF.

The Southern opinion of Martin Van Buren of the Tariff:

"Albany, Feb. 28, 1843.  
"My Dear Sir: I thank you very kindly for your friendly letter. I have at no time, nor any where, hesitated to express my decided disapprobation of the Tariff act of the last session, as well in respect to the principle upon which it is founded, as to its details. In good time you will have my views in respect to that and other subjects before the public. In the meantime, believe me to be, very sincerely,  
"Your friend and obt. servt.  
"MARTIN VAN BUREN."

The opinion of Mr. Van Buren's New York city (commercial) organ of the Tariff:

"It (the Tariff) enables the lords of capital, the eastern manufacturers, to accumulate wealth, not by an honest competition, but by a monopoly of the entire market; by grinding the poor operatives in the dust of penury and want; by taking from the farmer double the worth of necessary articles, and by keeping off foreign imports, so that foreign ports are virtually closed against him; and is not this a system of legalized plunder?"—Plebeian.

Very well. Now if the Tariff be so objectionable as Mr. Van Buren and his New York city organ represent it, why do not his friends in Congress "come up to the scratch," and sustain Mr. Rhet in his attempt to modify or repeal the present Tariff, for the purpose of establishing a horizontal rate of low duties? Why do they stand shilly-shallying? We like to see men's actions conform to their words. The Calhoun men are honestly opposed to the Tariff, and show their principles by their acts; but the Van Buren "Old Hankers" use different kinds of language in different States, and in different sections of the same State, so that no one can tell, if they can themselves, what they really mean.

## WHIG STATE CONVENTION OF VIRGINIA.

We learn from the Richmond Whig that in consequence of the probability of an early adjournment of the Legislature of Virginia, the State Central committee have changed the time of holding said convention from the 22d of February next to the SEVENTH DAY of the same month. The Whigs in the Legislature have recently adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved, That it is expedient to hold a Whig State Convention in the city of Richmond, to be composed of members of the Assembly and of special delegates from the several counties, on Wednesday, the 7th day of February, 1844, instead of the 22d of said month, as heretofore proposed. And that the Central Committee of the State, appointed by the last Convention, be respectfully requested to take early measures for promulgating the same in the fullest manner to the people of the State."

## MORE HELP.

THE DAILY FASHION.—We perceive by an editorial notice in yesterday's Diamond, that our spirited little contemporary is about shaking off the fetters of political neutrality, and coming out for Whig principles and Henry Clay. Dr. G. W. Dalton and Joseph Etter, Esq., have become joint proprietors of the paper, which will reappear on Tuesday, under the title of the "Daily Fashion." The Diamond has always been a popular and sprightly journal, and we doubt not that its whiggery will increase its usefulness, and not detract from its spirit.—N. O. Bee.

Well done, friend ETTER. As we expected, still true to the faith. It is the "Fashion" now to go for CLAY. Success to you.

MAKING A SHOW.—The correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer says, the "would-be aristocrats" at Washington announce a party, and then hire the most gorgeous ornaments from the silversmiths, which they return next morning for the use of others. Whoever is in the habit of going to parties, is thus in a fair way to meet old acquaintances every night.

What does the correspondent of the Inquirer mean by "would-be aristocrats?" Is he one of them?—do "birds of a feather flock together?" A man who would accept the hospitalities of a friend, and then expose his family affairs, would steal his coat. We advise the correspondent's "would-be aristocrats" to take care of their spoons.

WON'T RUN.—The Hon. Thos. M. T. McKennan, of Washington county, who was fixed upon by the Whigs as their candidate at the next gubernatorial election, declines the nomination for Governor of this State, in a letter to the editor of the Harrisburg Reporter, dated Washington, December 6, 1843; but tells the party they may command his services in any way to promote the election of Henry Clay in 1844.—Philadelphia Chronicle.

We are truly sorry to see the above announcement, but view it as another evidence of the self-sacrificing principles of the Hon. Thomas M. T. McKennan; than whom, a better Whig does not exist. He will not serve himself, but "tells the party they may command his services in any way for HENRY CLAY." Worthy of the man!

NAVAL.—The United States schooner Phoenix was to sail from Norfolk yesterday for Chagres. The following is a list of her officers:

Arthur Sinclair, Esq., lieut. com'g.  
J. A. Doyle and Van R. Morgan, act'g lieut's.  
Marius Duvall, assistant surgeon.  
W. A. Henry, passed midshipman.  
W. H. Chick, purser's clerk.

The Pensacola Gazette of 9th instant says:

The U. S. ship Vincennes, Captain Buchanan, has received orders to proceed down the Gulf on a cruise, and will sail in the early part of the ensuing week.

The United States brig Oregon, Lieutenant Commanding Piercy, sailed on the 7th instant for New York.

MISSISSIPPI.—The Columbia (S. C.) Chronicle says: The Locofocos are rejoicing over the result of the recent election in Mississippi. This is glorying in their shame; for the contest was between the Repudiators and Bond-payers—swindlers and honest men. The swindlers were the strongest and carried the day, and their brethren throughout the Union rejoice at their success!

ALABAMA.—The Legislature commenced its session on Monday, the 4th instant. The Hon. Nat. Terry, of Limestone, was elected President of the Senate; and A. B. Moore, Esq., of Perry, Speaker of the House.

Captain Wm. J. Couch, of Wetumpka, was elected Secretary of the Senate, and Major G. B. Clithrell, assistant. In the House, Joseph Phelan, Esq., was elected principal clerk, and A. B. Clithrell, Esq., assistant.

BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN ARKANSAS AND MISSOURI.—We learn from the Georgia Chronicle that the postmaster at Crowley's, Green county, Arkansas, under date of November 22d, communicates the following interesting information:—"The Commissioners who are running the line between Missouri and Arkansas, crossed the St. Francis river on Saturday, the 18th inst. They struck the river half a mile and four rods north of the old line; consequently, we gain a belt of territory, rather more than half a mile wide, from Missouri." If, says the Arkansas Banner, the line continues westward as favorable to us as it has begun, as no doubt it will, our State will be the gainer of a belt of very valuable territory, in width rather more than half a mile, and in length two hundred and ten miles, which comprises something over one hundred and five sections, or sixty-seven thousand and two hundred acres.

The Memphis Eagle of the 7th instant says: "Night before last it commenced raining again, and yesterday was one of the rainiest days of this stormy season. At nine P. M. there was no indication of a change. Business is almost suspended, and not more than eight or ten loads of cotton were seen on the streets yesterday. Gloomy indeed is the condition of the planter, and now we are quite certain that we shall not ship but little, if any, over half as much cotton as was shipped last year. Never have we seen the business of our city at this usually animated season of the year so perfectly choked, and it will require two weeks of clear weather to place the roads in a wagoning condition."

## CLIPPINGS.

The Buffalo Commercial Advertiser states, that the lake folks are cutting out for new steamers the ensuing season from an extensive pattern. Jesse Smith, of Cleveland, is said to be about building a boat which will leave our largest craft in the shade, as to size and finish. Report says 1,500 tons.

Thomas Wilson Dorr, the hero of Chepachet and statesman of the Foundry, now in durance vile for treason, has been appointed one of the delegates from Rhode Island to the Locofoco National Convention at Baltimore.

James Dunlap, Esq., President of the Bank of Illinois, was appointed by the Locofoco Convention of the first judicial circuit, in this State, "delegate to represent the Democratic party of the first judicial circuit of Illinois, in the National Convention, to be held at Baltimore, on Monday, the 4th day of May, 1844." We are not at all surprised at this selection. The State bank system should certainly be well represented to Mr. Van Buren's Convention.—Sangamo Jour.

MORMONS.—A fresh squad of 90 able-bodied mormons have arrived in New York from Liverpool. They are in good spirits.

From the Cherokee Nation.—The Creeks have passed a law expelling all white men from the limits of the Nation, who play at cards, whether they have Indian wives or not.

Judge Wells, of the United States District Court of Missouri, was lying dangerously ill at Jefferson city on the 7th inst. The business of the court was continued to the next term.

Steamboat Burnt.—We learn from the Charleston Courier that the steamboat Kershaw, with 966 bales of cotton on board, was totally destroyed by fire on the night of the 14th inst., while lying at the plantation of Mr. J. C. Singleton, about 30 miles below Columbia, with the entire cargo, at which place she had commenced loading.

A true bill of indictment has been found by a grand jury of New York against Hough, charged with the robbery of the United States mail at Hudson.

South Carolina.—The Education Committee have reported against the recommendation of the Governor to abandon the free system of common schools. They admit that it has failed of answering full the hopes of the friends of education, but think that, instead of being abandoned, it ought to be reformed.

Horrible Death.—A young man, name not given, in the employment of John Evans, glue manufacturer, in Troy, fell into a vat of boiling liquid on Sunday last, and was so badly scalded that he died in about eight hours afterwards suffering in the mean time most excruciatingly.

Hon. Wm. Montgomery, a Representative in the 26th Congress, from North Carolina, died in Orange county on the 30th ult.

The Columbia (Pa.) Spy mentions a rumor "that there has been an over issue of relief notes, by the Berks County Bank, and that the State has already received and cancelled the amount authorized to be issued."

Handsome.—The officers and crew of the Vincennes, lying at Pehsacola, have subscribed \$185 for the relief of the relatives of those who perished in the United States schooner Gram-pus.

## LOCAL NEWS.

Coroner's Inquest.—More of Rum's doings.—Free negro, Shadrach Hawkins, was found dead early yesterday morning, in the fields north of St. John's Church, in the First Ward. An inquest was held by Thomas Woodward, Esq., Coroner, and the following facts were elicited: that the deceased was seen the night before about 9 o'clock, in a beastly state of intoxication, and that being exposed to the inclemency of the weather, assisted by that draught fresh drawn from Hell, he perished. The verdict was in accordance with the facts.

Distressing Occurrence.—A gentleman, yesterday, while riding in a buggy wagon upon the avenue, ruptured a blood vessel, from which the blood flowed in great profusion. He was taken to his room at Gadsby's Hotel, and several of our ablest physicians immediately sent for, who done all that art and skill could suggest to alleviate the suffering stranger. At the time of writing, 6 o'clock, he is lying in a very precarious situation. We have not been able to ascertain his name, but learn he is from Kentucky.

Negro Gambling.—Michael Burley, an old offender, was yesterday fined two dollars and costs by Justice Thompson, for playing at games of chance. Let this be a warning to his brother blacklegs for the future.

The Statuary representing the Trial of Christ, still continues open at Apollo Hall day and evening. We can say no more in commendation of this group than has been already said—it is the most imposing exhibition that it has been our pleasure to witness for many years.

Wier's great painting of the Embarkation of the Pilgrims, we understand, will be placed in the rotunda of the Capitol to-day. Our citizens may anticipate a rich treat, as the press of the northern cities have spoken of it in the highest terms of praise.

## ARRIVALS AT THE PRINCIPAL HOTELS.

DECEMBER 20, 1843.

### INDIAN QUEEN (BROWN'S) HOTEL.

L. Taylor, E. Rosennay, Mr. Pendleton, Baltimore; John McLeane, C. Epping, S. C.; Z. B. Beall, Wm. O. Reeder, Thos. Estep, Md.; J. W. Branner, N. C.; E. Huntington, Conn.; G. J. Wilson, Va.; Thomas Warner, A. E. Dougherty, Phila.; R. C. Edwards, N. Y.; A. Hickman, S. C.

### CITY (FULLER'S) HOTEL.

John R. Simonson, N. J.; Wm. Johnson, Jas. Roberts, Del.

### EUROPEAN (GALABRUD'S) HOTEL.

Mr. Rosseter, Mr. Peabody, Ga.; James Brown, Va.; Wm. P. Hansford, Del.

### EXCHANGE (TYLER'S) HOTEL.

Samuel Y. Harris, O. C. Harris, Md.; Capt. Bush, Alexandria.

### TEMPERANCE (BEERS'S) HOTEL.

Wm. Florey, Mass.; Imah Moore and lady, N. J.; Jos. O. Chilton, Va.; S. M. Parsons, N. Y.

### VIRGINIA (SWEETING'S) HOTEL.

Mr. Foote, Mr. Weaver, W. H. Rodgers, Mr. Rust, Geo. Calvert, Mr. Smith, Va.

### SOUTH LEICESTER, MASS., Dec. 15th 1843.

TO R. PATTEN.—Sir: A correspondent has forwarded us a copy of the Whig Standard, wherein we find some remarks relative to the merits of Spectacle lenses; and as your signature is attached to the article, we take the liberty to reply to it as an emanation from your own optical knowledge. You have come out before an enlightened community with a dissertation on visual optics, in which you have chosen to make mention of the Perifocal or Parabola lenses, in such a manner, that, admitting your statements to be correct, we must be impostors. We now assert that your borrowed knowledge in optics has led you into a tissue of false assertions and untenable assumptions. Your remarks on the surfaces of Meniscus lenses, would argue that a sphere can be more spherical. The mention of a "greater degree of sphericity," when the subject-matter under discussion is a sphere, is too absurd for a moment's investigation. Your assertion "that no Ellipses can converge the rays of light to a perfect focus," is false, and must be predicated through your lamentable ignorance of the subject you have attacked. Permit me to inform you, sir, that, when a section of an ellipsoid of revolution, whose semi-transverse axis and eccentricity satisfy a given proportion, is obtained, parallel rays will be converged to a perfect focus. And as to your statement that Meniscus lenses converge rays "the same as double convex lenses," allow us to remark that in no case is the action of the lenses the same.—The proprietor of any school book on optics, will explain this to your satisfaction. You quote "Dr. Brewster on the Meniscus lens." The Dr. was an European optician, and consequently infallible. Nevertheless, we contend that Meniscus lenses whose surfaces bear a proper proportion to each other are correctors of Chromatic and spherical aberration. Were the eye placed in the one foci of the spectacles and the object viewed in the other, any lens of imperfect curvature would give a distorted figure. And double convex lenses always do; but the eye is never, in the use of spectacles, used in such positions: the rays received through the lens are parallel as those that enter the object-glass of a telescope; and the eye, always being far within the foci of the lens, is not sensible of aberration—Chromatic or otherwise. In this view of the case, the learned Doctor's remarks have no force. You ask—"Is it not preposterous to apply a piece of bent glass?" &c. In this question—you assume that our glass is bent—you dare not assert that they were bent; though you no doubt intended to have your remarks convey such an idea. Our glasses are not bent into their form; they are ground into the form in which they are sold; and, in reply to your comment on their evil tendency in long use, I would refer you to Professor Silliman, Dr. McAllister, and a host of scientific men, whose names have been cheerfully tendered us and can be seen at our agent's office. If you had been at all conversant in optics, you would never have made the assertion, at the close of your article, that "the general conviction is that double convex and concave lenses are the best for the eye." Those forms have been worn from necessity; and even European opticians have exhausted their ingenuity to produce the form you have taken upon you to repudiate. Years of toil have been consumed by us to produce the parabola curve. We are Americans, who acknowledge no superior in our art, in the old world; nor have we gleaned our knowledge from its masters. With our own hands we have fashioned according to our own minds, and the result is before the public. We have produced an article that the genius of Europe attempted in vain. Our lenses of all kinds bid defiance, in density of material, and brilliancy of finish, to all competitors; and when an optician attacks their reputation, we will be ready to give the rationale of their action.

dec 21—co3t HENRY M. PAINE & Co.